

I. Amendments to the Specification

Kindly replace paragraph number 18, on page 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In the embodiment illustrated in the drawings, the pivoting lock member is designated generally by the reference numeral 1. The pivoting lock member 1 is accommodated in a first collapsible lateral wall 2, which, in the embodiment illustrated, is one of the short lateral walls of a rectangular container made up of four collapsible lateral walls. Although not illustrated in the drawings, the collapsible lateral walls are hinged via suitable hinge joints or molded-on film hinges to the base of the container and can be folded inwards, one above the other. To do this, first the opposing short lateral walls 2 are folded inwards onto the container base, then the two long lateral walls, which are likewise opposite each other and are adjacent to the short lateral walls 2, are folded inwards, on top of the folded-down short lateral walls 2, onto the base. The second lateral walls, also referred to here as long lateral walls, are denoted by the reference numeral 3.

Kindly replace paragraph number 20, on page 7, with the following rewritten paragraph:

As is apparent, the pivot pin 5/bushing 7 connection described here forms the pivot center for the pivoting lock member 1. As is best seen in Figures 2 and 3, the pivoting lock member 1 is configured as a circular-sector-shaped component, the center of which is formed by the centrally disposed pivot pin 5. For purposes of actuation, the pivoting lock member 1 is provided, behind a grip recess 9, with a grip member 10 within a grip ledge. The pivoting lock member 1 is additionally configured with a projecting locking tongue 11, which, in the

locked position illustrated in Figure 1, engages behind a locating lug 12 on the adjacent long lateral wall 3 on the other side of the corner (see Fig. 5). As best seen in Figure 3 and Figure 5, both the projecting locking tongue 11 and the inwardly-projecting locating lug 12 on the adjacent long lateral wall 3 have an inclined ascent ramp or ramp surface 13 and 14 respectively, which have matching gradients. Locking ensues on account of two contacting surfaces, namely the surface X on the long lateral wall 3 (Fig. 5) and the surface Y on the pivoting lock member 1 or its projecting locking tongue 11 (Fig. 2). In the locked position illustrated in Figure 1, the pivoting lock member 1 is pretensioned by a pretensioning spring 15 which, in the embodiment described, is either molded integrally with the pivoting lock member 1 or is otherwise mounted thereon. In this embodiment, the pretensioning spring 15 is configured as an arcuate flexible tongue. This pretensioning spring 15 interacts with a stop 16 on the first or short lateral wall 2. As shown in Fig. 4, this stop 16 is configured as a U-shaped molding 16 which projects into the recess 4. Once again, the stop 16 is expediently molded integrally with the short lateral wall 2. When the pivoting lock member 1 is in the installed position, the free end of the pretensioning spring 15 abuts the stop 16. In the locked position, the two surfaces X and Y abut against each other, and the short and long lateral walls 2, 3 are held in the upright position. By opening the pivoting lock member 1, rotating it counterclockwise as shown in Figure 1 in the direction of arrow 17 the two surfaces X and Y rotate away from each other to allow the short and long lateral walls 2, 3 to be collapsed. On account of its previously described pretension, the pretensioning spring 15 springs into its rest position. During closing of the short and long lateral walls 2, 3, the rotary movement is generated automatically by the ramp surfaces 14 and 13 by lifting the grip member 10 to move

the projecting locking tongue 11 away from the locating lug 12. By way of the rotary movement one defines, so to speak, the position of a ~~“surface,”~~ “surface”, as a result of which a form closure is created. To release the pivoting lock member 1 from the position illustrated in Fig. 1, the grip member 10 is rotated about the pivot pin 5 in the direction of arrow 17; as a result, the pretensioning spring 15 is tensioned against the stop 16. With this opening movement in the direction of arrow 17, the projecting locking tongue 11 is released from its locking position behind the locating lug 12, so that the first short lateral wall 2 can be collapsed inwards onto the base of the container. If one lets go of the grip member 10 here, the pivoting lock member 1 moves in the opposite direction ~~to~~ of arrow 17, i.e., in the engaging position of the projecting locking tongue 11, because of the spring tension that has built up. This does not hinder the opening movement, however, because the short lateral wall 2 has already collapsed down towards the base, and the projecting locking tongue 11 has already passed over the locating lug 12.

Kindly replace paragraph number 25, on page 11, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The pivoting lock members 1 are expediently of integral configuration, being made, in particular, of plastic, and engaging as a single component in the complementary recess 4 in the first collapsible lateral wall 2. This facilitates both the production process and use. The advantage of the pivoting lock member 1 consists in that a catch mechanism is provided which is very easy to operate and which permits secure locking and releasing even of large containers, especially large containers measuring 60 x 80 cm ~~and~~ or more. Just a single action and a single operation, namely gripping and rotating the pivoting lock member 1 using the

grip member 10, are required to release and simultaneously collapse the short and long lateral walls 2, 3 in the direction of the base. The short and long lateral walls 2, 3 also engage automatically with each other when they are folded upwards to assemble the container, which is of substantial importance for customer acceptance of this catch mechanism and of the collapsible containers. This system simultaneously guarantees a very sturdy container configuration of upright, mutually engaged lateral walls.